

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Donald C. Lucas on March 11, 2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims: Please cancel non-elected claim 9.

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1, 2, 4 and 7-8 are allowed.

After careful consideration of the applicant's request for reconsideration of the concerning the rejection of the last Office action of 11/15/2007 is persuasive and, therefore, the provisional double patenting rejection has been withdrawn. Amended claim 1 teaches a silicon feedstock containing between 0.3 and 5.0 ppma boron, between 0.1 and 10 ppma phosphorus, less than 150 ppma of metallic elements and less than 100 ppma carbon distributed in the material, which is distinguished from the silicon feedstock in co-pending application 11/772,813

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The most relevant prior art reference of Dosaj. However, Dosaj does not teach a silicon feedstock containing between 0.3 and 5.0 ppma boron, which is substantially lower than the boron

content taught by Dosaj. A 0.1 to 10 ppma phosphorus content is taught by Dosaj, which is higher than the phosphorus content of the instant invention. Dosaj's silicon is produced using carbonaceous reduction agents that with no means for removing carbon from the silicon, thus having a much higher carbon content, as taught by the instant invention.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Felisa Hiteshew whose telephone number is (571) 272-1463. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays through Thursday from 5:30 AM to 4:00 PM with Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Barr, can be reached on (571) 272-1414. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-1463.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system. see

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<http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866- 217-9197 (toll-free).

/Felisa C. Hiteshew/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1792